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BY CERTIFIED MAIL

DATE: August 28, 2006

TO: Regional, County, and Local Officials and Affected Landowners

RE: Greater Minnesota Transmission, LLC has submitted an application for a Pipeline Routing Permit and a Partial Exemption from Pipeline Route Selection Procedures to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) (MPUC Docket No. PL-6580/GP-06-931)

PUBLIC MEETING RESCHEDULED

The Minnesota Department of Commerce will hold public meetings in the following locations:

Date: **Wednesday, September 13, 2006**

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Stone Mill Restaurant, 432 Mill St. W, Cannon Falls, MN

Date: **Thursday, September 14, 2006** (Originally September 12, 2006)

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Black Stallion Restaurant Meeting Room, 23380 Emery Ave, Hampton, MN

The public meeting originally scheduled in Hampton, MN for Tuesday, September 12, 2006 has been rescheduled for September 14, 2006.

Prior to each meeting, Department of Commerce staff and representatives of the Applicant will be available for informal discussions with interested individuals beginning at **4:00 p.m.** The purpose of the public meetings is to provide information about the proposed project, to answer questions, and to allow the public to comment on the application. No decisions will be made at these meetings. The PUC will decide whether to grant the pipeline routing permit and partial exemption at a subsequent meeting to be scheduled at the PUC offices in St. Paul.

Project Description

On August 17, 2006, the MPUC accepted an application by Greater Minnesota Transmission, LLC (GMT) to install a 13-mile long, 16-inch diameter high-pressure natural gas pipeline in central Dakota County. The proposed pipeline route originates at a new Northern Natural Gas (NNG) town border station (TBS) south of Coates and terminates at the proposed Invenergy

Power Plant on the northwest edge of Cannon Falls in Goodhue County. As shown in Figure 1.1 and Figure 1.2 in the enclosed application, the proposed pipeline route generally parallels U.S. Highway 52 through Vermillion, Hampton, and Randolph Townships in Dakota County and Cannon Falls in Goodhue County.

The primary purpose of the Cannon Falls Natural Gas Pipeline Project is to provide a natural gas supply to the Invenenergy Power Plant in Cannon Falls, Minnesota. The Invenenergy Power Plant is a proposed peaking electric generation unit consisting of two combustion turbines with a total capacity of 357 megawatts. GMT may also choose to use the pipeline to serve other customers in the future, but no specific customers have been identified at this time.

Copies of Application

A copy of the pipeline route application to the MPUC was provided in an earlier notice. The application and other documents related to this docket are also available online on the MPUC website at <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=18685>.

How to Comment

The Applicants are seeking review under the MPUC procedure that allows a partial exemption from the pipeline route selection procedures if the pipeline will not have a significant impact on humans or the environment. The applicable MPUC rules (Minnesota Rules Chapter 4415) allow either a full review procedure or a partial exemption procedure. Both processes require the Applicant to submit the same information. The primary difference between the two procedures is that the partial exemption procedure does not require detailed consideration of alternative routes and does not include a formal contested case hearing.

Comments should include specific reasons why the MPUC should grant or deny the partial exemption and the pipeline routing permit. Written comments should be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to Department of Commerce project manager (contact information below). You may also provide written or verbal comments at the public meetings described above, to be held by the Minnesota Department of Commerce.

Project Contacts and Additional Information

Bill Storm of the Department of Commerce Energy Facility Permitting Unit is the project manager and Deborah Pile is the public advisor in this matter. For more information about the permit application or to have your name included on the project contact list contact:

Bill Storm (telephone: (651) 296-9535, e-mail: bill.storm@state.mn.us),
Deborah Pile (telephone: (651) 297-2375, e-mail: deborah.pile@state.mn.us),
85 7th Place East, Suite 560, St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
Facsimile: (651) 297-7891, TTY: (800) 627-3529, Toll Free: (800) 657-3794,
or register at <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=18685>.
The contact person for the applicants is GMT President Mychael Swan at (507) 934-3411.